

8-19-1855

## Letter to John Butler, Eliza (Smith) Butler and Matilda Smith from Isaac Smith

Isaac Smith

Margaret Smith

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as Mr Smith cannot fill this sheet I thought  
I would write a few lines I nothing worth writing, I  
wont to see all of you very much I often think of  
the Poor little children and wont to see them very much  
if you only knew how Berry takes on about Uncle Johns  
folks it would make you sorry for him I know the Boys  
has got to be a great help They have bound all the grain  
this year they halled 18 loads of oats a lone and stacked  
it in the stable Rufus can hall wood go to Mill & son  
Matilda we received your nice present we to much  
of it to Buy a dress with it unless you had rather we  
would when Rufus opened the letter he thought  
it was to him he said he would not take a horse for  
that but soon found out his mistake you must  
give him an myself the prise for naming the  
babe for you John I wont to see you and talk to  
you very much but as I am at present deprived of  
that satisfaction I wont you and Ely to write  
a long letter Lavina I am sorry you have forgot  
your old Aunt and little cousins so quick write to  
the children they live very lonely Isaac you must  
be a good little Boy and try to learn all you can  
if you live to be a man you may be a youseful one  
Erastus you and Garville must make hast and  
learn to write so you can write us all the news  
the children says they wont you to send Aunt Tilda  
by letter and they will pay the postage give my  
respects to all that think worth inquiring after give  
my to James & Mary I wish you could all see  
Lides Boy it is a perfect show it is bedtime so good  
by To all of you Margaret B S

Bridgeport Ct August the 1<sup>st</sup> 1855  
Dear Brothers & Sisters  
I write you a few <sup>lines</sup> to  
let you all know that we have not forgotten  
you, this is fare from being the care I think of  
you as often as I did the season I first  
left you all, Margaret Recd a letter yesterday  
from Aunt Julia Murphy & Sister May stated  
you had been there a day or two back and that  
you said you had wrote fine letters to us  
that you had not heard any thing of since,  
May never came to hand I have received three  
letters from you in eighteen months, one in  
June 54 one last fall and one January 55  
I dont know how many letters I have wrote  
to since that time to you, but not less than  
a half dozen if I did not believe that letters  
got lost on the way I should get out of  
patience I have wrote to several others besides  
you, and got no answers amongst them was  
one to Mr Lucas, J Whitman, J Sturges, &  
Henry Ground these letters I wrote last  
fall & winter. These lines leaves us all  
well except the babe it is trying to cut  
teeth it is a little unwell son that a cant  
I are was Baptist preaching in our neighbor hood  
to day your Father & Mother was there & came  
home with us and spent the evening May



are both well & cheerful as could be expected  
your Father is very much concerned about William  
he is afraid he will come to want.

Elijah and folks was up to see us the last of the  
week, he met with quite an accident, got a load  
of Lumber at the saw mill, and had just put  
his wagon <sup>box</sup> on to <sup>the</sup> ~~last~~ Lumber and came  
in to the house, to get ready to start home,  
and his horses took fright, at the box or some-  
thing and ran away, they did not go far till  
the wagon came on cuppled and the lines got fast  
to the fore wheel and stoped them, it did not  
hurt his horses but it nearly spoiled his wagon,  
it broke one wheel and injured two others very  
much broke one axle tree both bolsters & two  
standards, ~~They~~ are all well and have got  
the largest and fatest Babe I ever saw in  
my life, its rist is exactly the size of mine.  
The rest of your kind folks & acquaintances  
are all well as far as I know.

I am through with my harvest except clean-  
ing up some ~~wheat~~ that I raised a very fair crop of  
wheat and oats I had to work on the old plan  
cradle my grain, and then tramp it out with  
horses, this I don't like, the little boys have  
rid as fast as I cradled, we cut and shocked  
two acres per day, I cradled more this year than  
I ever did in one year before and stood it better

There is some reapers & thrashers here but  
not plenty, I see a reaper advertist in the Atlas  
that reaps & rakes & mows, if you know any  
thing favorable about them, I wish you  
would write to me what kind of a Machine  
it is, where it is made, and what it costs,  
I wrote to you last summer to send me a wes-  
tern fruit book by Eliot, I have not received it  
or saw any mention of it, in your letters I would  
still like to hire it if you could get it.  
we have had a very dry season here this  
season it hasent rained since the first of  
june not withstanding garden stuff looks  
well I have a very good garden this year  
times is looking up here some in consequence  
of a gold mine discovered up the Columbia,  
the extent of these mines is not yet ascer-  
tained but we will know all about  
it shortly - I am sorry to hear that  
fruit in your section has failed a gain,  
peaches misped here, but there are  
plenty of apples where the trees are  
large enough to bare, it is now but  
time I must come to a close write soon  
Remains your Brother till death

John & Eliza Butler  
Matilda Smith

Isaac Smith

we have a school handy this summer



# Butler Family Letters

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Title: Letter to Brother and Sisters [John & Eliza Butler, Matilda Smith] from Isaac Smith  
(Bridgeport Oregon Territory)

Date: August 19, 1855

Transcription:

Bridgeport O T August the 19th 1855

Dear Brother & Sister

I write you a few lines to let you all know that we have not forgoton you, this is fare from being the case I think of you as often as I did the season I first left you all Margaret reed a letter yesterday from Aunt Julia Murphy & Lisia thay stated you had bin thare a day or two back and that you said you had wrote five letters to us that you had not heard anything of since thay never came to hand I have received three letters from you in eighteen months, one in June 54 one last fall and one January 55 I dont know how many leters I have wrote to since that time to you, but not less than a half dozen if I did not believe that letters got lost on the way I should get out of patience I have wrote to several others besides you and got no answers, amongst them was one to M Lucus, J Whitman, J Struges, & Henry Ground these letters was wrote last fall & winter. These lines leaves us all well except the babe it is trying to cut teethe it is a little unwell on that acaunt Tare was Baptist preaching in our neighborhood to day your Father & Mother was thare & came home with us and spent the evening thay are both well & cheerful as could be expected, you Father is very much concerned about William he is afraid he will come to want. Elijah and folks was up to see us the las of the week, he met with qite an axident got a load of lumber at the saw mill and had just put his wagon box on to the ? on to the load of lumber and came in to the house to get redy to start home and his horses took fight at the ? or something and run away, thay did not go fare till the wagon came on cuppled? and the lines got fast to the fore wheel and stoped them, it did not hurt his horses but it nearly spoiled his wagon it broke one wheel and injured two others very much broke one axel tree both holsters & two standerds Thay are all well and have got the largest and fatest babe I ever saw in mi life its rist is exactly the sise of mine the rest of your kins folks & acquaintences are all well as fair as I know.

I am through with my harvest except cleaning up some wheat I raised a very fair crop of wheat and oats I had to work on the old plan cradle my grain and then tramp it out with horses, this I

dont like the little boys bound as fast as I cradled we cut and shocked two acres per day, I cradled more this year than I ever did in one year before and stood it better thay is some reapers & thrashers heare but not plenty. I see a reper advertist in the Atlas that reaps & rakes & mows if you know anything favorable about them I wish you wold write to me what kind of a Mashean it is whare it is made, and what it costs I wrote to you last summer to send me a western fruit book by Eliot, I have not received it or saw any mention of it in your letters I wold still like to have it if you could get it. we have had a very dry season heare this season it hasnt rained since the first of June notwithstanding garden stuff looks well I have a verry good garden this year times is looking up heare some in consequence of a gold mine discovered up the Columbia the extent of these mines is not yet as ceartaind but we will know all about it shortly I am sorry to heare that frit in you section has failed a gain, peaches missed heare, but thare are plenty of aples whare the trees are large a nough to bare, it is now bed time I must come to a close write soon

Remains your Brother till death

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John & Eliza Butler  
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we have school handy this summer

as Mr. Smith cannot fill this sheet I thought I would write a few lions I nothing worth writing I wont to see all of you very much I often think of the poor little children and wont to see them very much if you only knew how Berry takes on about Uncle Johns folks it would make you sorry for him I know the boys has got to be a great help they have bound all the grain this year they halled 18 loads of oats alone and stacked it in the stable Rufus can hall wood go to hill & so on Matilda we received your nice present we to much of it to buy a dress with it unless you had rather we would when Rufus opened the letter he thought it was to him he said he would not take a horse for that but soon found out his mistake you must give him and myself the prise for naming the babe for you John I wont to see you and talk to you very much but as I am at present deprived of that satisfaction I wont you and Eliza to write a long letter Lavina I am sorry you have forgot your old Aunt and little cousins so quick write to the children they live very lonely Isaac you must me a good little boy and try to learn all you can if you live to be a man you may be a youseful one Erastus you and Ganville must make hast and learn to write so you can write us all the news the children says they wont you to send Aunt tilda by letter and they will pay the postage give my respects to all that think us worth inquiring after give my to James & Mary I wish you could all see Lides boy it is a perfect show it is bedtime so good by to all of you

Margaret B S